

House File 15 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 15
BY KRESSIG

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing the pathways to education and employment
2 reentry program to be administered by the community
3 colleges division of the department of education and making
4 appropriations.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 260C.51 Pathways to education and
2 employment reentry program.

3 1. The pathways to education and employment reentry program
4 is established to be administered by the community colleges
5 division of the department of education to reduce recidivism
6 and further develop the workforce in this state.

7 2. The community colleges division shall, through at
8 least eight community colleges, provide education related to
9 educational and employment opportunities in the community
10 to individuals exiting a correctional institution under the
11 control of the Iowa department of corrections or a city or
12 county jail. The pathways to education and employment reentry
13 program must provide all of the following services:

- 14 a. Case management.
- 15 b. Educational course information and counseling.
- 16 c. Career exploration.
- 17 d. Job training.
- 18 e. Job placement.
- 19 f. Assistance with creating a curriculum vitae.
- 20 g. Assistance with completing job applications.
- 21 h. Employability skills training.
- 22 i. Job referrals.
- 23 j. Notification of hiring events.

24 3. The community colleges division shall coordinate
25 services with the Iowa department of corrections as well as
26 other federal, state, local, and nonprofit entities to provide
27 clothing, mental health services, probation services, travel
28 assistance, food assistance, and gang-prevention programs
29 to individuals exiting a correctional institution under the
30 control of the Iowa department of corrections or a city or
31 county jail.

32 4. The pathways to education and employment reentry program
33 shall work with nonprofit entities in developing a strategy for
34 attracting additional financial resources for the program from
35 other sources, including federal, state, local, and private

1 sector funding sources. The financial resources received shall
2 be credited to the pathways to education and employment reentry
3 program fund created pursuant to subsection 5.

4 5. A pathways to education and employment reentry program
5 fund is created in the state treasury as a separate fund
6 under the control of the department of education. All moneys
7 deposited or paid into the pathways to education and employment
8 reentry program fund are appropriated and made available to
9 the department to be used for meeting the requirements of this
10 section. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys deposited in
11 the pathways to education and employment reentry program fund
12 shall not revert to any fund of the state at the end of any
13 fiscal year but shall remain in the pathways to education and
14 employment reentry program fund and be continuously available
15 under the pathways to education and employment reentry program.

16 6. The state board of education may adopt rules pursuant to
17 chapter 17A to administer this section.

18 Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — PATHWAYS TO EDUCATION
19 AND EMPLOYMENT REENTRY PROGRAM. There is appropriated from the
20 general fund of the state to the department of education for
21 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30,
22 2024, the following amount, or so much thereof as is necessary,
23 to be used for the purposes designated:

24 For the pathways to education and employment reentry program
25 established pursuant to section 260C.51, including salaries,
26 support, maintenance, miscellaneous purposes, and for not more
27 than the following full-time equivalent positions:

28	\$	4,200,000
29	FTEs	8.00

30 EXPLANATION

31 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
32 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

33 This bill establishes the pathways to education and
34 employment reentry program to be administered by the community
35 colleges division of the department of education.

1 The bill requires the division, through at least eight
2 community colleges, to provide education related to educational
3 and employment opportunities in the community to individuals
4 exiting a correctional institution under the control of the
5 Iowa department of corrections or a city or county jail. The
6 bill establishes the specific services the program is to
7 provide.

8 The bill requires the division to coordinate services with
9 the Iowa department of corrections as well as other federal,
10 state, local, and nonprofit entities to provide certain
11 specified services to individuals exiting a correctional
12 institution under the control of the Iowa department of
13 corrections or a city or county jail. The bill also requires
14 the division to develop a strategy for attracting additional
15 financial resources.

16 The bill establishes a pathways to education and employment
17 reentry program fund in the state treasury as a separate
18 fund under the control of the department of education. The
19 bill appropriates \$4.2 million from the general fund to the
20 department of education for FY 2023-2024 for purposes of the
21 program.

22 The bill authorizes the state board of education to adopt
23 rules to administer the program.